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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup>:</b> <b>C07D 487/04, A61K 31/40</b>	<b>A1</b>	<b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 97/11945</b> <b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 3 April 1997 (03.04.97)
<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/GB96/02310 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 19 September 1996 (19.09.96) <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 9519563.2 26 September 1995 (26.09.95) GB <b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> MERCK SHARP & DOHME LIMITED [GB/GB]; Hertford Road, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire EN11 9BU (GB). <b>(72) Inventor; and</b> <b>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only):</b> MADIN, Andrew [GB/GB]; Terlings Park, Eastwick Road, Harlow, Essex CM20 2QR (GB). <b>(74) Agent:</b> THOMPSON, John; Merck & Co., Inc., European Patent Dept., Terlings Park, Eastwick Road, Harlow, Essex CM20 2QR (GB).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
<b>(54) Title:</b> DIAZABICYCLOOCTANE DERIVATIVES HAVING SELECTIVE 5-HT <sub>1D</sub> ALPHA ANTAGONIST ACTIVITY  <b>(57) Abstract</b>  A class of 3-substituted 3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane derivatives, further substituted at the 7-position by an optionally substituted alkenyl, alkynyl, arylcarbonyl, aryl-alkyl or heteroaryl-alkyl moiety, are selective agonists of 5-HT <sub>1</sub> -like receptors, being potent agonists of the human 5-HT <sub>1D</sub> receptor subtype whilst possessing at least a 10-fold selective affinity for the 5-HT <sub>1D</sub> receptor subtype relative to the 5-HT <sub>1D</sub> subtype; they are therefore useful in the treatment and/or prevention of clinical conditions, in particular migraine and associated disorders, for which a subtype-selective agonist of 5-HT <sub>1D</sub> receptors is indicated, whilst eliciting fewer side-effects, notably adverse cardiovascular events, than those associated with non-subtype-selective 5-HT <sub>1D</sub> receptor agonists.		

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DIAZABICYCLOOCTANE DERIVATIVES HAVING SELECTIVE 5-HT<sub>1D</sub>ALPHA ANTAGONIST ACTIVITY

The present invention relates to a class of substituted  
5 3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane derivatives which act on  
5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT) receptors, being selective agonists of so-called  
"5-HT<sub>1</sub>-like" receptors. They are therefore useful in the treatment of  
clinical conditions for which a selective agonist of these receptors is  
indicated.

10 It has been known for some time that 5-HT<sub>1</sub>-like receptor  
agonists which exhibit selective vasoconstrictor activity are of use in the  
treatment of migraine (see, for example, A. Doenicke *et al.*, *The Lancet*,  
1988, Vol. 1, 1309-11; and W. Feniuk and P.P.A. Humphrey, *Drug*  
*Development Research*, 1992, 26, 235-240).

15 The human 5-HT<sub>1</sub>-like or 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptor has recently been  
shown by molecular cloning techniques to exist in two distinct subtypes.  
These subtypes have been termed 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  (or 5-HT<sub>1D-1</sub>) and 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  (or  
5-HT<sub>1D-2</sub>), and their amino acid sequences are disclosed and claimed in  
WO-A-91/17174.

20 The 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor subtype in humans is believed to reside  
on sensory terminals in the dura mater. Stimulation of the 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>   
subtype inhibits the release of inflammatory neuropeptides which are  
thought to contribute to the headache pain of migraine. The human  
5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  receptor subtype, meanwhile, is located predominantly on the  
25 blood vessels and in the brain, and hence may play a part in mediating  
constriction of cerebral and coronary arteries, as well as CNS effects.

Administration of the prototypical 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> agonist  
sumatriptan (GR43175) to humans is known to give rise at therapeutic  
doses to certain adverse cardiovascular events (see, for example, F. Willett  
30 *et al.*, *Br. Med. J.*, 1992, 304, 1415; J.P. Ottervanger *et al.*, *The Lancet*,  
1993, 341, 861-2; and D.N. Bateman, *The Lancet*, 1993, 341, 221-4). Since

sumatriptan barely discriminates between the human 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  and 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  receptor subtypes (cf. WO-A-91/17174, Table 1), and since it is the blood vessels with which the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  subtype is most closely associated, it is believed that the cardiovascular side-effects observed with sumatriptan can be attributed to stimulation of the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  receptor subtype. It is accordingly considered (cf. G.W. Rebeck *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 1994, 91, 3666-9) that compounds which can interact selectively with the 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor subtype, whilst having a less pronounced action at the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  subtype, might be free from, or at any rate less prone to, the undesirable cardiovascular and other side-effects associated with non-subtype-selective 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptor agonists, whilst at the same time maintaining a beneficial level of anti-migraine activity.

The compounds of the present invention, being selective 5-HT<sub>1</sub>-like receptor agonists, are accordingly of benefit in the treatment of migraine and associated conditions, e.g. cluster headache, chronic paroxysmal hemicrania, headache associated with vascular disorders, tension headache and paediatric migraine. In particular, the compounds according to this invention are potent agonists of the human 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor subtype. Moreover, the compounds in accordance with this invention have been found to possess at least a 10-fold selective affinity for the 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor subtype relative to the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  subtype, and they can therefore be expected to manifest fewer side-effects than those associated with non-subtype-selective 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptor agonists.

Several distinct classes of substituted five-membered heteroaromatic compounds are described in published European patent applications 0438230, 0494774 and 0497512, and published International patent applications 93/18029, 94/02477 and 94/03446. The compounds described therein are stated to be agonists of 5-HT<sub>1</sub>-like receptors, and accordingly to be of particular use in the treatment of migraine and associated conditions. None of these publications, however, discloses nor

even suggests the 3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane derivatives provided by the present invention.

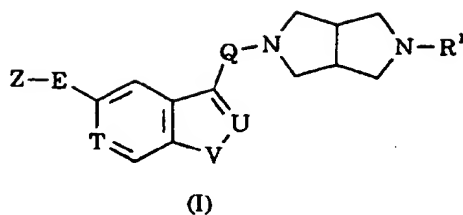
In EP-A-0548813 is described a series of alkoxy pyridin-4-yl and alkoxy pyrimidin-4-yl derivatives of indol-3-ylalkylpiperazines which are alleged to provide treatment of vascular or vascular-related headaches, including migraine. There is, however, no disclosure nor any suggestion in EP-A-0548813 of replacing the substituted piperazine moiety with a differently substituted 3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane moiety.

WO-A-91/18897 describes a class of tryptamine derivatives substituted by various five-membered rings, which are stated to be specific to a particular type of "5-HT<sub>1</sub>-like" receptor and thus to be effective agents for the treatment of clinical conditions, particularly migraine, requiring this activity. However, WO-A-91/18897 neither discloses nor suggests the 3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane derivatives provided by the present invention.

Moreover, nowhere in the prior art mentioned above is there any disclosure of a subtype-selective 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptor agonist having a 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor binding affinity (IC<sub>50</sub>) below 50 nM and at least a 10-fold selective affinity for the 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor subtype relative to the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  subtype.

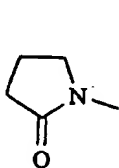
The compounds according to the present invention are subtype-selective 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptor agonists having a human 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor binding affinity (IC<sub>50</sub>) below 50 nM, typically below 10 nM and preferably below 1 nM; and at least a 10-fold selective affinity, typically at least a 50-fold selective affinity and preferably at least a 100-fold selective affinity, for the human 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor subtype relative to the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  subtype.

The present invention provides a compound of formula I, or a salt or prodrug thereof:

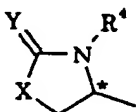


wherein

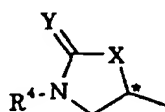
Z represents hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl,  
 5 -OR<sup>5</sup>, -OCOR<sup>5</sup>, -OCONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -OCH<sub>2</sub>CN, -OCH<sub>2</sub>CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -SR<sup>5</sup>, -SOR<sup>5</sup>,  
 -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>COR<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>6</sup>, -COR<sup>5</sup>,  
 -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, or a group of formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):



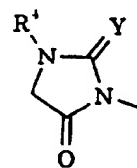
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

10

in which the asterisk \* denotes a chiral centre; or

Z represents an optionally substituted five-membered  
 heteroaromatic ring selected from furan, thiophene, pyrrole, oxazole,  
 thiazole, isoxazole, isothiazole, imidazole, pyrazole, oxadiazole,  
 15 thiadiazole, triazole and tetrazole;

X represents oxygen, sulphur, -NH- or methylene;

Y represents oxygen or sulphur;

E represents a chemical bond or a straight or branched  
 alkylene chain containing from 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

20

Q represents a straight or branched alkylene chain  
 containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, optionally substituted in any position  
 by a hydroxy group;

T represents nitrogen or CH;

U represents nitrogen or C-R<sup>2</sup>;

V represents oxygen, sulphur or N-R<sup>3</sup>;

R<sup>1</sup> represents C<sub>3-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3-6</sub> alkynyl, arylcarbonyl,  
5 aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl or heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, any of which groups may be  
optionally substituted;

R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> independently represent hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;  
and

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> independently represent hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl,  
10 trifluoromethyl, phenyl, methylphenyl, or an optionally substituted  
aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl or heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl group.

Where Z in the compounds of formula I above represents a  
five-membered heteroaromatic ring, this ring may be optionally  
substituted by one or, where possible, two substituents. As will be  
15 appreciated, where Z represents an oxadiazole, thiadiazole or tetrazole  
ring, only one substituent will be possible; otherwise, one or two optional  
substituents may be accommodated around the five-membered  
heteroaromatic ring Z. Examples of suitable substituents on the five-  
membered heteroaromatic ring Z include C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>  
20 alkynyl, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, aryl, aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub> heterocycloalkyl,  
heteroaryl, heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, halogen, cyano and trifluoromethyl.

The group R<sup>1</sup> may be optionally substituted by one or more  
substituents, as also may the groups R<sup>5</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> where these represent  
25 aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl or heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl. Where R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> represents  
aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl or heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, any optional substitution will  
suitably be on the aryl or heteroaryl moiety thereof, although substitution  
on the alkyl moiety thereof is an alternative possibility. Examples of  
optional substituents thereon include halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl,  
30 triazolyl, tetrazolyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-tetrazolyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylthio, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulphonyl,

arylsulphonyl, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino,  
di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminomethyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino,  
C<sub>2-6</sub> alkoxy carbonylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl-*N*-(C<sub>2-6</sub>)alkoxy carbonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylsulphonylamino, arylsulphonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
5 alkylsulphonylaminomethyl, aminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylaminocarbonylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminocarbonylamino, mono- or  
diarylaminocarbonylamino, pyrrolidinylcarbonylamino,  
piperidinylcarbonylamino, aminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaminocarbonyl,  
di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminocarbonyl, aminosulphonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaminosulphonyl,  
10 di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminosulphonyl, aminosulphonylmethyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylaminosulphonylmethyl and di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminosulphonylmethyl.

As used herein, the expression "C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl" includes methyl  
and ethyl groups, and straight-chained or branched propyl, butyl, pentyl  
and hexyl groups. Particular alkyl groups are methyl, ethyl, *n*-propyl,  
15 isopropyl and *tert*-butyl. Derived expressions such as "C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy", "C<sub>1-6</sub>  
alkylthio" and "C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino" are to be construed accordingly.

The expression "C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl" as used herein refers to  
straight-chained and branched alkenyl groups containing from 2 to 6  
carbon atoms. Typical examples include vinyl, allyl, dimethylallyl and  
20 butenyl groups.

The expression "C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynyl" as used herein refers to  
straight-chained and branched alkynyl groups containing from 2 to 6  
carbon atoms. Typical examples include ethynyl and propargyl groups.

Typical C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl groups include cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl,  
25 cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl.

Typical aryl groups include phenyl and naphthyl.

A typical arylcarbonyl group is benzoyl.

The expression "aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl" as used herein includes  
benzyl, phenylethyl, phenylpropyl and naphthylmethyl.

30 Suitable heterocycloalkyl groups include azetidiny,   
pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl and morpholinyl groups.



Suitable heteroaryl groups include pyridinyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyranyl, furyl, benzofuryl, dibenzofuryl, thienyl, benzthienyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, pyrazolyl, indazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, imidazolyl, benzimidazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl and tetrazolyl groups.

The expression "heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl" as used herein includes furylmethyl, furylethyl, thienylmethyl, thienylethyl, oxazolylmethyl, oxazolylethyl, thiazolylmethyl, thiazolylethyl, imidazolylmethyl, imidazolylethyl, oxadiazolylmethyl, oxadiazolylethyl, thiadiazolylmethyl, thiadiazolylethyl, triazolylmethyl, triazolylethyl, tetrazolylmethyl, tetrazolylethyl, pyridinylmethyl, pyridinylethyl, pyrimidinylmethyl, pyrazinylmethyl, quinolinylmethyl and isoquinolinylmethyl.

The term "halogen" as used herein includes fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine, especially fluorine.

For use in medicine, the salts of the compounds of formula I will be pharmaceutically acceptable salts. Other salts may, however, be useful in the preparation of the compounds according to the invention or of their pharmaceutically acceptable salts. Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compounds of this invention include acid addition salts which may, for example, be formed by mixing a solution of the compound according to the invention with a solution of a pharmaceutically acceptable acid such as hydrochloric acid, sulphuric acid, fumaric acid, maleic acid, succinic acid, acetic acid, benzoic acid, oxalic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, carbonic acid or phosphoric acid. Furthermore, where the compounds of the invention carry an acidic moiety, suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof may include alkali metal salts, e.g. sodium or potassium salts; alkaline earth metal salts, e.g. calcium or magnesium salts; and salts formed with suitable organic ligands, e.g. quaternary ammonium salts.

The present invention includes within its scope prodrugs of the compounds of formula I above. In general, such prodrugs will be

functional derivatives of the compounds of formula I which are readily convertible *in vivo* into the required compound of formula I. Conventional procedures for the selection and preparation of suitable prodrug derivatives are described, for example, in *Design of Prodrugs*, ed. H. Bundgaard, Elsevier, 1985.

Where the compounds according to the invention have at least one asymmetric centre, they may accordingly exist as enantiomers. Where the compounds according to the invention possess two or more asymmetric centres, they may additionally exist as diastereoisomers. For example, the compounds of formula I above wherein Z represents a group of formula (b) or (c) have a chiral centre denoted by the asterisk \*, which may accordingly be in the (*R*) or (*S*) configuration. It is to be understood that all such isomers and mixtures thereof in any proportion are encompassed within the scope of the present invention.

In particular, the ring junction between the fused five-membered rings in the 3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane moiety depicted in formula I is preferably in the *cis* configuration.

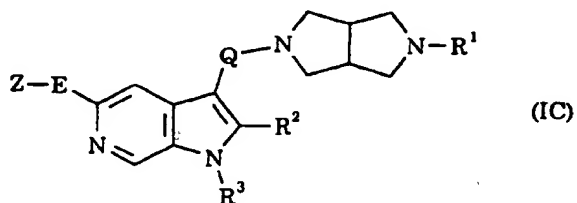
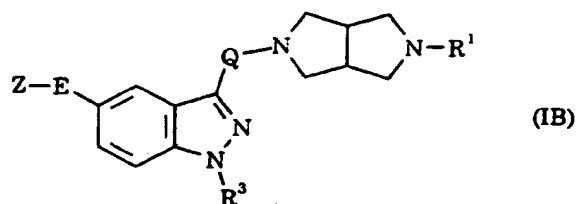
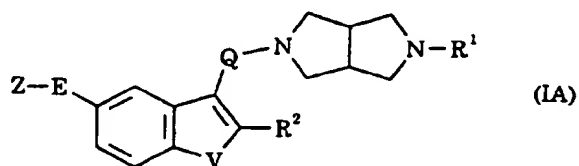
Where E and Q, which may be the same or different, represent straight or branched alkylene chains, these may be, for example, methylene, ethylene, 1-methylethylene, propylene, 2-methylpropylene or butylene. In addition, the alkylene chain Q may be substituted in any position by a hydroxy group giving rise, for example, to a 2-hydroxypropylene or 2-hydroxymethyl-propylene chain Q. Moreover, E may represent a chemical bond such that the moiety Z is attached directly to the central fused bicyclic heteroaromatic ring system containing the variables T, U and V.

Suitably, E represents a chemical bond or a methylene linkage.

Representative alkylene chains for Q include propylene, butylene, 2-hydroxypropylene and 2-hydroxymethyl-propylene, especially propylene.

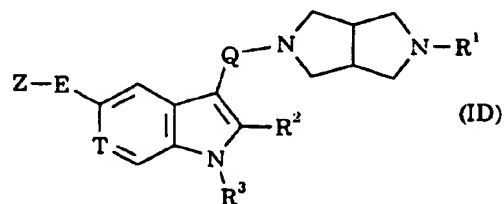
The compound of formula I in accordance with the present invention is suitably an indole, benzofuran or benzthiophene derivative of formula IA, an indazole derivative of formula IB, or a pyrrolo[2,3-c]-pyridine derivative of formula IC:

5



wherein Z, E, Q, V, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are as defined above. Preferably, the compounds according to the invention are indole or pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridine derivatives of formula ID:

10



wherein Z, E, Q, T, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are as defined above, in particular wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are both hydrogen.

Suitable values for the substituent R<sup>1</sup> include allyl, dimethylallyl, butenyl, propargyl, benzoyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, 5 furylmethyl, thienylmethyl, imidazolymethyl and pyridinylmethyl, any of which groups may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected typically from halogen, cyano, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-tetrazolyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, amino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminomethyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkylcarbonylamino, C<sub>2-6</sub> 10 alkoxy carbonylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl-*N*-(C<sub>2-6</sub>)alkoxy carbonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulphonylamino, aminocarbonylamino, aminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaminocarbonyl, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminocarbonyl, aminosulphonyl and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaminosulphonylmethyl.

Representative values of R<sup>1</sup> include allyl, dimethylallyl, 15 butenyl, propargyl, benzoyl, benzyl, fluorobenzyl, difluorobenzyl, cyanobenzyl, tetrazolyl-benzyl, methyltetrazolyl-benzyl, methoxybenzyl, aminobenzyl, dimethylaminomethyl-benzyl, acetylamino-benzyl, aminocarbonyl-benzyl, methylaminocarbonyl-benzyl, dimethylaminocarbonyl-benzyl, aminosulphonyl-benzyl, phenylethyl, 20 fluoro-phenylethyl, difluoro-phenylethyl, cyano-phenylethyl, triazolyl-phenylethyl, amino-phenylethyl, dimethylamino-phenylethyl, acetylamino-phenylethyl, methoxycarbonylamino-phenylethyl, (*N*-methyl-*N*-methoxycarbonyl)amino-phenylethyl, aminocarbonylamino-phenylethyl, furylmethyl, thienylmethyl, imidazolymethyl, pyridinylmethyl and 25 amino-pyridinylmethyl.

Particular values of R<sup>1</sup> include benzoyl, benzyl, acetylamino-phenylethyl and pyridinylmethyl.

Suitably, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> independently represent hydrogen or methyl, especially hydrogen.

30 Suitably, R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen or methyl, especially hydrogen.

Suitably, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, *n*-propyl, isopropyl, *n*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, methylphenyl (especially 4-methylphenyl), benzyl and phenethyl.

5                   Suitably, the substituent Z represents hydrogen, fluoro, cyano, hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy, benzyloxy, methylamino-carbonyloxy, cyano-methoxy, aminocarbonyl-methoxy, methylsulphonyl, aminosulphonyl, *N*-methylamino-sulphonyl, *N,N*-dimethylamino-sulphonyl, amino, formylamino, acetylamino, trifluoromethyl-  
10 carbonylamino, benzyloxy-carbonylamino, methyl-sulphonylamino, ethyl-sulphonylamino, methylphenyl-sulphonylamino, *N*-methyl-(*N*-methylsulphonyl)-amino, *N*-methyl-(*N*-ethylsulphonyl)-amino, *N*-methyl-(*N*-trifluoromethylsulphonyl)-amino, *N*-ethyl-(*N*-methylsulphonyl)-amino, *N*-benzyl-(*N*-methylsulphonyl)-amino, *N*-benzyl-(*N*-ethylsulphonyl)-amino,  
15 acetyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, methylaminocarbonyl, ethylaminocarbonyl, propylaminocarbonyl, butylaminocarbonyl, benzylaminocarbonyl or phenethyl-aminocarbonyl; or a group of formula (a), (b), (c) or (d) as defined above; or an optionally substituted five-membered heteroaromatic ring as specified above.

20                   In a particular embodiment, Z represents -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> in which R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are as defined above. In a subset of this embodiment, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> independently represent hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, especially hydrogen or methyl. Particular values of Z in this context include aminosulphonyl, *N*-methylamino-sulphonyl and *N,N*-dimethylamino-sulphonyl, especially *N*-methylamino-sulphonyl.  
25

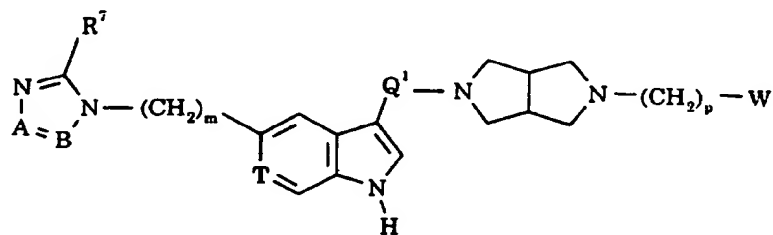
In another embodiment, Z represents a group of formula (b) in which R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen or methyl. In a subset of this embodiment, X and Y both represent oxygen. In a particular aspect of this subset, the chiral centre denoted by the asterisk \* is in the (*S*) configuration.

30                   When the group Z represents an optionally substituted five-membered heteroaromatic ring, this is suitably a 1,3-oxazole, 1,3-thiazole,

imidazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, 1,3,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,4-thiadiazole, 1,3,4-thiadiazole, 1,2,3-triazole, 1,2,4-triazole or tetrazole ring. Preferably, the ring is a 1,3-oxazole, 1,3-thiazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,4-thiadiazole or 1,2,4-triazole ring, in particular a 1,2,4-triazol-1-yl or 1,2,4-triazol-4-yl moiety.

Suitably, the five-membered heteroaromatic ring Z is unsubstituted. Examples of optional substituents which may typically be attached to the moiety Z include methyl, ethyl, benzyl and amino.

A particular sub-class of compounds according to the invention is represented by the compounds of formula IIA, and salts and prodrugs thereof:



(IIA)

wherein

m is zero, 1, 2 or 3;

p is 1, 2 or 3;

Q¹ represents a straight or branched alkylene chain containing from 2 to 5 carbon atoms, optionally substituted in any position by a hydroxy group;

T represents nitrogen or CH;

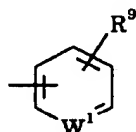
A represents nitrogen or CH;

B represents nitrogen or C-R⁸;

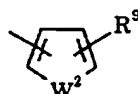
R⁷ and R⁸ independently represent hydrogen, C₁-₆ alkyl, C₂-₆ alkenyl, C₃-₇ cycloalkyl, aryl, aryl(C₁-₆)alkyl, C₃-₇ heterocycloalkyl,

heteroaryl, heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, halogen, cyano or trifluoromethyl; and

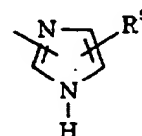
W represents a group of formula (Wa), (Wb) or (Wc):



(Wa)



(Wb)



(Wc)

in which

W<sup>1</sup> represents CH or nitrogen;

W<sup>2</sup> represents oxygen, sulphur, NH or N-methyl; and

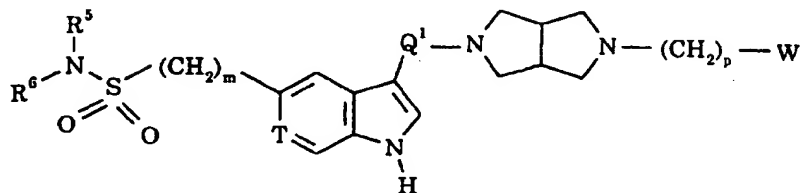
R<sup>9</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-tetrazolyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminomethyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkylcarbonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulphonylamino, aminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaminocarbonyl, aminosulphonyl or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaminosulphonylmethyl.

Suitably, Q<sup>1</sup> represents a straight or branched 3 or 4 carbon alkylene chain, optionally substituted in any position by a hydroxy group. Particular alkylene chains for Q<sup>1</sup> include propylene, butylene, 2-hydroxypropylene and 2-(hydroxymethyl)-propylene, especially propylene.

Particular values of R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> include hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, benzyl and amino, especially hydrogen.

Particular values of R<sup>9</sup> include hydrogen, fluoro, cyano, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, methyl-tetrazolyl, methoxy, amino, dimethylaminomethyl, acetyl amino, aminocarbonylamino, methylaminocarbonyl and aminosulphonyl, especially hydrogen or acetyl amino.

Another sub-class of compounds according to the invention is represented by the compounds of formula IIB, and salts and prodrugs thereof:



(IIB)

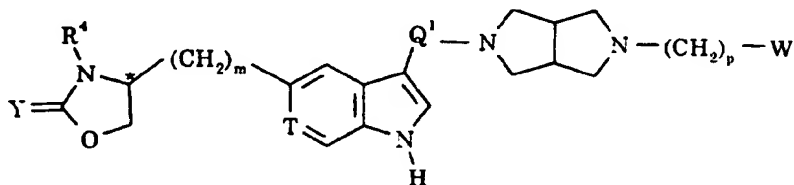
wherein

m, p, Q<sup>1</sup>, T and W are as defined with reference to formula IIA above; and

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are as defined with reference to formula I above.

Particular values of R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> in relation to formula IIB above include hydrogen and C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, especially hydrogen or methyl. Suitably, one of R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen and the other represents hydrogen or methyl.

A further sub-class of compounds according to the invention is represented by the compounds of formula IIC, and salts and prodrugs thereof:



(IIC)

wherein the asterisk \* denotes a chiral centre;



m, p, Q<sup>1</sup>, T and W are as defined with reference to formula IIA above; and

R<sup>4</sup> and Y are as defined with reference to formula I above.

Particular values of R<sup>4</sup> in relation to formula IIC include  
5 hydrogen and methyl, especially hydrogen.

Preferably, Y in formula IIC is oxygen.

Preferably, the chiral centre denoted by the asterisk \* in formula IIC is in the (S) configuration.

Specific compounds within the scope of the present invention  
10 include:

3-benzyl-7-[3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propyl]-*cis*-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane;

3-(pyridin-3-yl)methyl-7-[3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propyl]-*cis*-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane;

15 3-[2-(4-(acetylamino)phenyl)ethyl]-7-[3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propyl]-*cis*-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane;

3-benzoyl-7-[3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propyl]-*cis*-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane;

and salts and prodrugs thereof.

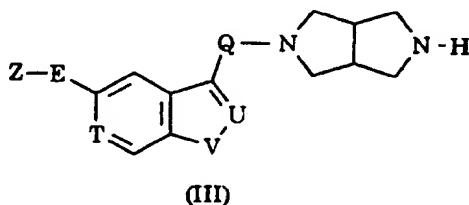
20 The invention also provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising one or more compounds of this invention in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Preferably these compositions are in unit dosage forms such as tablets, pills, capsules, powders, granules, sterile parenteral solutions or suspensions, metered aerosol or liquid  
25 sprays, drops, ampoules, auto-injector devices or suppositories; for oral, parenteral, intranasal, sublingual or rectal administration, or for administration by inhalation or insufflation. For preparing solid compositions such as tablets, the principal active ingredient is mixed with a pharmaceutical carrier, e.g. conventional tableting ingredients such as  
30 corn starch, lactose, sucrose, sorbitol, talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, dicalcium phosphate or gums, and other pharmaceutical

diluents, e.g. water, to form a solid preformulation composition containing a homogeneous mixture of a compound of the present invention, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. When referring to these preformulation compositions as homogeneous, it is meant that the active ingredient is dispersed evenly throughout the composition so that the composition may be readily subdivided into equally effective unit dosage forms such as tablets, pills and capsules. This solid preformulation composition is then subdivided into unit dosage forms of the type described above containing from 0.1 to about 500 mg of the active ingredient of the present invention. Typical unit dosage forms contain from 1 to 100 mg, for example 1, 2, 5, 10, 25, 50 or 100 mg, of the active ingredient. The tablets or pills of the novel composition can be coated or otherwise compounded to provide a dosage form affording the advantage of prolonged action. For example, the tablet or pill can comprise an inner dosage and an outer dosage component, the latter being in the form of an envelope over the former. The two components can be separated by an enteric layer which serves to resist disintegration in the stomach and permits the inner component to pass intact into the duodenum or to be delayed in release. A variety of materials can be used for such enteric layers or coatings, such materials including a number of polymeric acids and mixtures of polymeric acids with such materials as shellac, cetyl alcohol and cellulose acetate.

The liquid forms in which the novel compositions of the present invention may be incorporated for administration orally or by injection include aqueous solutions, suitably flavoured syrups, aqueous or oil suspensions, and flavoured emulsions with edible oils such as cottonseed oil, sesame oil, coconut oil or peanut oil, as well as elixirs and similar pharmaceutical vehicles. Suitable dispersing or suspending agents for aqueous suspensions include synthetic and natural gums such as tragacanth, acacia, alginate, dextran, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, polyvinyl-pyrrolidone or gelatin.

In the treatment of migraine, a suitable dosage level is about 0.01 to 250 mg/kg per day, preferably about 0.05 to 100 mg/kg per day, and especially about 0.05 to 5 mg/kg per day. The compounds may be administered on a regimen of 1 to 4 times per day.

- 5           The compounds according to the invention may be prepared by a process which comprises attachment of the R<sup>1</sup> moiety to a compound of formula III:



10

wherein Z, E, Q, T, U and V are as defined above; by conventional means including N-alkylation and N-arylation.

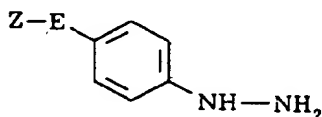
- Attachment of the R<sup>1</sup> moiety to the compounds of formula III may conveniently be effected by standard alkylation techniques. One example thereof comprises treatment with an alkenyl halide such as 4-bromobut-1-ene, 4-bromo-2-methylbut-2-ene or allyl bromide, an alkynyl halide such as propargyl bromide, or an aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl or heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl halide such as 2-bromo-1-[4-(acetylamino)phenyl]-ethane, typically in the presence of sodium carbonate and sodium iodide, in a suitable solvent such as 1,2-dimethoxyethane.
- 15
- 20

- Alternatively, the R<sup>1</sup> moiety may conveniently be attached by reductive alkylation, which may be accomplished in a single step, or as a two-step procedure. The single-step approach suitably comprises treating the required compound of formula III as defined above with the appropriate aldehyde, e.g. benzaldehyde, pyridine carboxaldehyde, furfuraldehyde or thiophene carboxaldehyde, in the presence of a reducing agent such as sodium cyanoborohydride. In a typical two-step procedure.
- 25

for the preparation of a compound of formula I wherein  $R^1$  corresponds to a group of formula  $-CH_2R^{11}$ , a carboxylic acid derivative of formula  $R^{11}-CO_2H$  is condensed with the required compound of formula III, suitably in the presence of 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride and 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate, to afford a compound corresponding to formula I wherein  $R^1$  represents  $-COR^{11}$ ; the carbonyl group thereof can then be reduced, for example by treatment with diisobutylaluminium hydride, and the required compound of formula I thereby obtained.

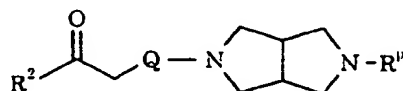
Where  $R^1$  represents an arylcarbonyl moiety, this group may be conveniently attached by standard arylation techniques. One example thereof comprises treatment of compound III with an aroyl halide, e.g. benzoyl chloride, typically in the presence of triethylamine, in a suitable solvent such as dichloromethane.

The compounds of formula III above wherein T represents CH, U represents  $C-R^2$  and V represents  $N-R^3$ , corresponding to the indole derivatives of formula ID as defined above wherein T represents CH and  $R^1$  is hydrogen, may be prepared by a process which comprises reacting a compound of formula IV:



(IV)

wherein Z and E are as defined above; with a compound of formula V, or a carbonyl-protected form thereof:



(V)

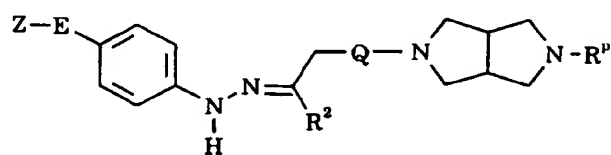
wherein  $R^2$  and Q are as defined above, and  $R^p$  represents an amino-protecting group; followed, where required, by N-alkylation by standard methods to introduce the moiety  $R^3$ ; with subsequent removal of the amino-protecting group  $R^p$ .

5                   The reaction between compounds IV and V, which is an example of the well-known Fischer indole synthesis, is suitably carried out by heating the reagents together under mildly acidic conditions, e.g. 4% sulphuric acid at reflux.

                  Suitable carbonyl-protected forms of the compounds of  
10   formula V include the dimethyl acetal or ketal derivatives.

                  The protecting group  $R^p$  in the compounds of formula V is suitably a carbamoyl moiety such as *tert*-butoxycarbonyl (BOC), which can conveniently be removed as necessary by treatment under mildly acidic conditions. Indeed, the acidic conditions of the Fischer indole synthesis  
15   reaction will generally suffice to remove the BOC group.

                  The Fischer reaction between compounds IV and V may be carried out in a single step, or may proceed via an initial non-cyclising step at a lower temperature to give an intermediate of formula VI:

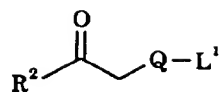


(VI)

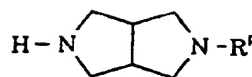
20

wherein Z, E, Q,  $R^2$  and  $R^p$  are as defined above; followed by cyclisation using a suitable reagent, e.g. a polyphosphate ester.

                  The intermediates of formula V, or carbonyl-protected forms  
25   thereof, may be prepared by reacting a compound of formula VII, or a carbonyl-protected form thereof, with a compound of formula VIII:



(VII)



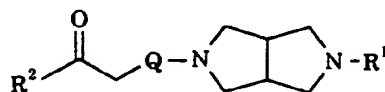
(VIII)

wherein Q, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>p</sup> are as defined above, and L<sup>1</sup> represents a suitable leaving group.

5           The leaving group L<sup>1</sup> is suitably a halogen atom, e.g. chlorine or bromine.

Where L<sup>1</sup> represents a halogen atom, the reaction between compounds VII and VIII is conveniently effected by stirring the reactants under basic conditions in a suitable solvent, for example sodium carbonate  
10   in 1,2-dimethoxyethane, typically in the presence of catalytic sodium iodide.

The compounds according to the invention wherein T represents CH, U represents C-R<sup>2</sup> and V represents N-R<sup>3</sup> - i.e. the indole derivatives of formula ID as defined above wherein T represents CH - may  
15   alternatively be prepared by a process which comprises reacting a compound of formula IV as defined above with a compound of formula IX, or a carbonyl-protected form thereof:



(IX)

20

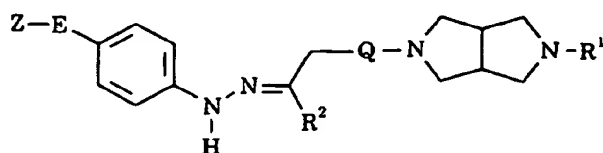
wherein Q, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are as defined above; under conditions analogous to those described above for the reaction between compounds IV and V; followed, where required, by N-alkylation by standard methods to introduce the moiety R<sup>3</sup>.

25

As for the compounds of formula V, suitable carbonyl-protected forms of the compounds of formula IX include the dimethyl

acetal or ketal derivatives. Where the alkylene chain Q is substituted by a hydroxy group, this group may condense with the carbonyl moiety in compounds V and IX, whereby the carbonyl moiety is protected in the form of a cyclic hemiacetal.

- 5 As with that between compounds IV and V, the Fischer reaction between compounds IV and IX may be carried out in a single step, or may proceed via an initial non-cyclising step at a lower temperature to give an intermediate of formula X:

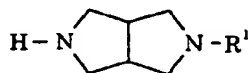


(X)

10

wherein Z, E, Q, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are as defined above; followed by cyclisation using a suitable reagent, e.g. a polyphosphate ester.

- 15 The intermediates of formula IX, or carbonyl-protected forms thereof, may be prepared by reacting a compound of formula VII as defined above, or a carbonyl-protected form thereof, with a compound of formula XI:

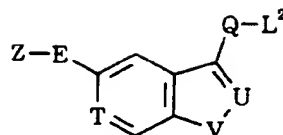


(XI)

20

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is as defined above; under conditions analogous to those described above for the reaction between compounds VII and VIII.

- 25 In an alternative procedure, the compounds of formula III above may be prepared by a process which comprises reacting a compound of formula VIII as defined above with a compound of formula XII:



(XII)

wherein Z, E, Q, T, U and V are as defined above, and L<sup>2</sup> represents a  
 5 suitable leaving group; followed by removal of the amino-protecting group  
 R<sup>p</sup>.

Similarly, the compounds of formula I as defined above may  
 be prepared by a process which comprises reacting a compound of formula  
 XI as defined above with a compound of formula XII as defined above.

10 The leaving group L<sup>2</sup> is suitably an alkylsulphonyloxy or  
 arylsulphonyloxy group, e.g. methanesulphonyloxy (mesyloxy) or  
*p*-toluenesulphonyloxy (tosyloxy).

Where L<sup>2</sup> represents an alkylsulphonyloxy or  
 arylsulphonyloxy group, the reaction between compound XII and  
 15 compound VIII or XI is conveniently carried out in a suitable solvent such  
 as 1,2-dimethoxyethane or isopropyl alcohol, optionally in the presence of  
 a cosolvent such as acetonitrile, typically in the presence of a base such as  
 sodium carbonate or potassium carbonate, and optionally with the  
 addition of sodium iodide.

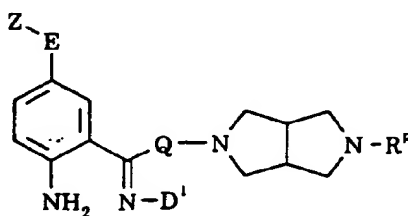
20 In a representative embodiment, the compounds of formula  
 XII wherein T and U both represent CH, V represents NH, Q represents a  
 propylene chain and L<sup>2</sup> represents a mesyloxy or tosyloxy group may be  
 prepared by reacting 3,4-dihydro-2*H*-pyran with a compound of formula IV  
 as defined above or a salt thereof, under a variant of the Fischer reaction  
 25 conditions as described above for the reaction between compounds IV and  
 V; followed by mesylation or tosylation of the 3-hydroxypropyl-indole



derivative thereby obtained, typically by treatment with mesyl chloride or tosyl chloride under standard conditions.

The Fischer reaction with 3,4-dihydro-2*H*-pyran is suitably brought about by heating the hydrazine derivative IV or an acid addition salt thereof, typically the hydrochloride salt, in an inert solvent such as dioxan, advantageously in the presence of a mineral acid such as hydrochloric acid or a Lewis acid such as zinc chloride, at the reflux temperature of the solvent.

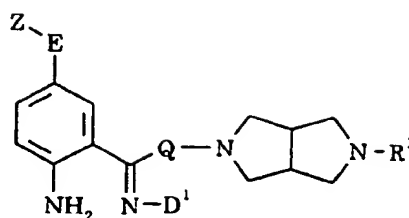
In a further procedure, the compounds of formula III above wherein T represents CH, U represents nitrogen and V represents N-R<sup>3</sup>, corresponding to the indazole derivatives of formula IB as defined above wherein R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, may be prepared by a process which comprises cyclising a compound of formula XIII:



(XIII)

wherein Z, E, Q and R<sup>p</sup> are as defined above, and D<sup>1</sup> represents a readily displaceable group; followed, where required, by N-alkylation by standard methods to introduce the moiety R<sup>3</sup>; with subsequent removal of the amino-protecting group R<sup>p</sup>.

Similarly, the compounds of formula I wherein T represents CH, U represents nitrogen and V represents N-R<sup>3</sup> - i.e. the indazole derivatives of formula IB as defined above - may be prepared by a process which comprises cyclising a compound of formula XIV:

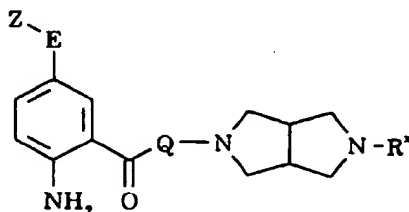


(XIV)

in which Z, E, Q, R<sup>1</sup> and D<sup>1</sup> are as defined above; followed, where required, by N-alkylation by standard methods to introduce the moiety R<sup>3</sup>.

5 The cyclisation of compounds XIII and XIV is conveniently achieved in a suitable organic solvent at an elevated temperature, for example in a mixture of *m*-xylene and 2,6-lutidine at a temperature in the region of 140°C.

10 The readily displaceable group D<sup>1</sup> in the compounds of formula XIII and XIV suitably represents a C<sub>1-4</sub> alkanoyloxy group, preferably acetoxy. Where D<sup>1</sup> represents acetoxy, the desired compound of formula XIII or XIV may be conveniently prepared by treating a carbonyl compound of formula XV:



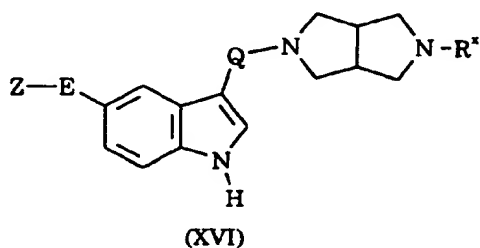
(XV)

15

wherein Z, E and Q are as defined above, and R<sup>x</sup> corresponds to the group R<sup>1</sup> as defined above, or R<sup>x</sup> represents an amino-protecting group as defined for R<sup>p</sup>; or a protected derivative thereof, preferably the N-formyl protected derivative; with hydroxylamine hydrochloride, advantageously in pyridine  
20 at the reflux temperature of the solvent; followed by acetylation with

acetic anhydride, advantageously in the presence of a catalytic quantity of 4-dimethylaminopyridine, in dichloromethane at room temperature.

The N-formyl protected derivatives of the intermediates of formula XV may conveniently be prepared by ozonolysis of the  
5 corresponding indole derivative of formula XVI:

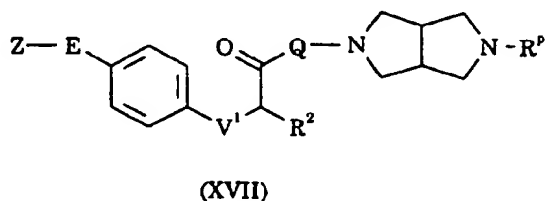


wherein Z, E, Q and R\* are as defined above; followed by a reductive work-  
10 up, advantageously using dimethylsulphide.

The indole derivatives of formula XVI may be prepared by methods analogous to those described in the accompanying Examples, or by procedures well known from the art.

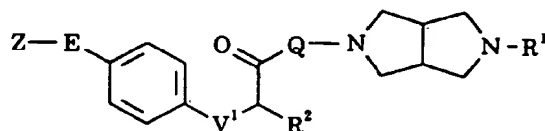
In a still further procedure, the compounds of formula III  
15 above wherein T represents CH, U represents C-R<sup>2</sup> and V represents oxygen or sulphur, corresponding to the benzofuran or benzthiophene derivatives of formula IA wherein V is oxygen or sulphur respectively and R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, may be prepared by a process which comprises cyclising a compound of formula XVII:

20



wherein Z, E, Q, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>p</sup> are as defined above, and V<sup>1</sup> represents oxygen or sulphur; followed by removal of the amino-protecting group R<sup>p</sup>.

Similarly, the compounds of formula I wherein T represents CH, U represents C-R<sup>2</sup> and V represents oxygen or sulphur - i.e. the  
 5 benzofuran or benzthiophene derivatives of formula IA above - may be prepared by a process which comprises cyclising a compound of formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

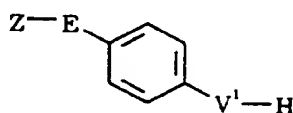
10

wherein Z, E, Q, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and V<sup>1</sup> are as defined above.

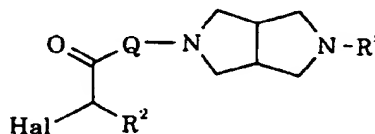
The cyclisation of compounds XVII and XVIII is conveniently effected by using polyphosphoric acid or a polyphosphate ester, advantageously at an elevated temperature.

15

The compounds of formula XVII and XVIII may be prepared by reacting a compound of formula XIX with a compound of formula XX:



(XIX)



(XX)

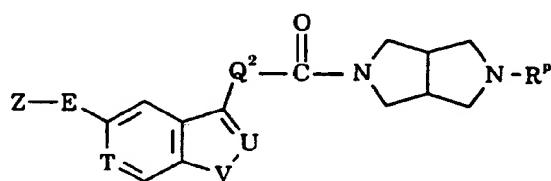
20

wherein Z, E, Q, R<sup>2</sup>, V<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>x</sup> are as defined above, and Hal represents a halogen atom.

The reaction is conveniently effected in the presence of a base such as sodium hydroxide.

The hydroxy and mercapto derivatives of formula XIX may be prepared by a variety of methods which will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art. One such method is described in EP-A-0497512.

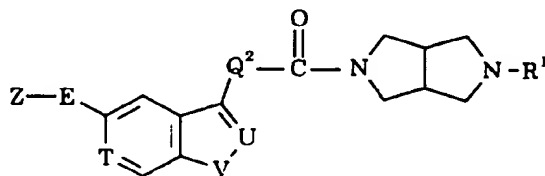
In a yet further procedure, the compounds of formula III  
 5 above may be prepared by a process which comprises reducing a compound of formula XXI:



(XXI)

10 wherein Z, E, T, U, V and R<sup>p</sup> are as defined above, and -Q<sup>2</sup>-CH<sub>2</sub>- corresponds to the moiety Q as defined above; with subsequent removal of the amino-protecting group R<sup>p</sup>.

Similarly, the compounds according to the invention may be prepared by a process which comprises reducing a compound of formula  
 15 XXII:



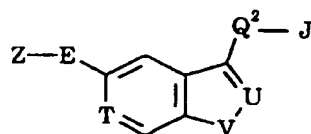
(XXII)

wherein Z, E, T, U, V, R<sup>1</sup> and Q<sup>2</sup> are as defined above.

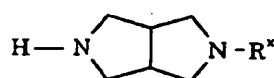
20 The reduction of compounds XXI and XXII is conveniently effected by treating the appropriate compound with a reducing agent such

as lithium aluminium hydride in an appropriate solvent, e.g. diethyl ether or tetrahydrofuran, or mixtures thereof.

The compounds of formulae XXI and XXII above may suitably be prepared by reacting a compound of formula XXIII with the appropriate  
 5 compound of formula XXIV:



(XXIII)



(XXIV)

wherein Z, E, T, U, V, R\* and Q<sup>2</sup> are as defined above, and J represents a  
 10 reactive carboxylate moiety.

Suitable values for the reactive carboxylate moiety J include esters, for example C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl esters; acid anhydrides, for example mixed anhydrides with C<sub>1-4</sub> alkanolic acids; acid halides, for example acid chlorides; and acylimidazoles.

By way of example, the intermediates of formula XXIII above  
 15 wherein J is an acid chloride moiety may be prepared by treating the corresponding carboxylic acid derivative with thionyl chloride in toluene. Similarly, the intermediates of formula XXIII wherein J is an acylimidazole moiety may be prepared by treating the corresponding  
 20 carboxylic acid derivative with 1,1'-carbonyldiimidazole. Alternatively, the reactive carboxylate moiety J may be obtained by treating the corresponding compound wherein J is carboxy with  
 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride and 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate, optionally in the presence of triethylamine;  
 25 the resulting activated carboxylate intermediate may then suitably be reacted *in situ* with the required compound of formula XXIV.

The hydrazine derivatives of formula IV above may be prepared by methods analogous to those described in EP-A-0438230, EP-A-0497512, EP-A-0548813 and WO-A-91/18897.

Where they are not commercially available, the starting materials of formula VII, VIII, XI, XX, XXIII and XXIV may be prepared by methods analogous to those described in the accompanying Examples, or by standard procedures well known from the art.

It will be understood that any compound of formula I initially obtained from any of the above processes may, where appropriate, subsequently be elaborated into a further compound of formula I by techniques known from the art. For example, a compound of formula I wherein R<sup>1</sup> is benzyl initially obtained may be converted by catalytic hydrogenation to the corresponding compound of formula III, which in turn may be converted into a further compound of formula I using standard N-alkylation techniques as described above. Furthermore, a compound of formula I initially obtained wherein the R<sup>1</sup> moiety is substituted by nitro or cyano may be converted by catalytic hydrogenation to the corresponding amino- or aminomethyl-substituted compound respectively. Additionally, a compound of formula I wherein the R<sup>1</sup> moiety is substituted by hydroxy, possibly obtained by lithium aluminium hydride reduction of a precursor alkoxycarbonyl derivative, may be mesylated under standard conditions, and the mesyl group subsequently displaced by an amino moiety by treatment with the desired amine in a sealed tube at an elevated temperature. The amine derivative resulting from any of these procedures may then, for example, be N-acylated using the appropriate acyl halide, e.g. acetyl chloride; or aminocarbonylated, using potassium isocyanate, to the corresponding urea derivative; or converted to a 1,2,4-triazol-4-yl derivative using *N,N*-dimethylformamide azine; or reductively alkylated by treatment with the appropriate aldehyde or ketone in the presence of sodium cyanoborohydride. If desired, the amine derivative may also be carbamoylated by treatment with the requisite

alkyl chloroformate. A compound of formula I initially obtained wherein the R<sup>1</sup> moiety is substituted by cyano may be converted, by treatment with sodium azide, to the corresponding tetrazole derivative, which in turn may be alkylated on the tetrazole ring by treatment with an alkyl halide under standard conditions. By way of additional illustration, a compound of formula I initially obtained wherein the R<sup>1</sup> moiety is substituted by an alkoxycarbonyl moiety may be saponified, by treatment with an alkali metal hydroxide, to the corresponding carboxy-substituted compound, which in turn may be converted to an amide derivative by treatment with the appropriate amine, advantageously in the presence of 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride and 1-hydroxybenzotriazole. Moreover, a compound of formula I wherein R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen initially obtained may be converted into a compound of formula I wherein R<sup>3</sup> represents C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl by standard alkylation techniques, for example by treatment with an alkyl iodide, e.g. methyl iodide, typically under basic conditions, e.g. sodium hydride in dimethylformamide, or triethylamine in acetonitrile.

Where the above-described processes for the preparation of the compounds according to the invention give rise to mixtures of stereoisomers, these isomers may be separated by conventional techniques such as preparative chromatography. The novel compounds may be prepared in racemic form, or individual enantiomers may be prepared either by enantiospecific synthesis or by resolution. The novel compounds may, for example, be resolved into their component enantiomers by standard techniques such as preparative HPLC, or the formation of diastereomeric pairs by salt formation with an optically active acid, such as (-)-di-*p*-toluoyl-d-tartaric acid and/or (+)-di-*p*-toluoyl-l-tartaric acid, followed by fractional crystallization and regeneration of the free base. The novel compounds may also be resolved by formation of diastereomeric esters or amides, followed by chromatographic separation and removal of the chiral auxiliary.



During any of the above synthetic sequences it may be necessary and/or desirable to protect sensitive or reactive groups on any of the molecules concerned. This may be achieved by means of conventional protecting groups, such as those described in *Protective Groups in Organic Chemistry*, ed. J.F.W. McOmie, Plenum Press, 1973; and T.W. Greene & P.G.M. Wuts, *Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis*, John Wiley & Sons, 1991. The protecting groups may be removed at a convenient subsequent stage using methods known from the art.

The following Examples illustrate the preparation of compounds according to the invention.

The compounds in accordance with the present invention potently and selectively bind to the 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor subtype, inhibit forskolin-stimulated adenylyl cyclase activity, and stimulate [<sup>35</sup>S]-GTP $\gamma$ S binding to membranes from clonal cell lines expressing human cloned receptors.

#### 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub> /5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub> Radioligand Binding

Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) clonal cell lines expressing the human 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  and 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  receptors were harvested in PBS and homogenised in ice cold 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.7 at room temperature) with a Kinematica polytron and centrifuged at 48,000g at 4°C for 11 min. The pellet was then resuspended in 50 mM Tris-HCl followed by a 10 min incubation at 37°C. Finally the tissue was recentrifuged at 48,000g, 4°C for 11 min and the pellet resuspended, in assay buffer (composition in mM: Tris-HCl 50, pargyline 0.01, CaCl<sub>2</sub> 4; ascorbate 0.1%; pH 7.7 at room temperature) to give the required volume immediately prior to use (0.2 mg protein/ml). Incubations were carried out for 30 min at 37°C in the presence of 0.02-150 nM [<sup>3</sup>H]-5-HT for saturation studies or 2-5 nM [<sup>3</sup>H]-5-HT for displacement studies. The final assay volume was 1 ml. 5-HT (10  $\mu$ M) was used to define non-specific binding. The reaction was initiated by

the addition of membrane and was terminated by rapid filtration through Whatman GF/B filters (presoaked in 0.3% PEI/ 0.5% Triton X) followed by 2 x 4 ml washings with 50 mM Tris-HCl. The radioactive filters were then counted on a LKB beta or a Wallac beta plate counter. Binding parameters were determined by non-linear, least squares regression analysis using an iterative curve fitting routine, from which  $IC_{50}$  (the molar concentration of compound necessary to inhibit binding by 50%) values could be calculated for each test compound. The  $IC_{50}$  values for binding to the 5-HT $_{1D\alpha}$  receptor subtype obtained for the compounds of the accompanying Examples were below 50 nM in each case. Furthermore, the compounds of the accompanying Examples were all found to possess a selective affinity for the 5-HT $_{1D\alpha}$  receptor subtype of at least 10-fold relative to the 5-HT $_{1D\beta}$  subtype.

#### 5-HT $_{1D\alpha}$ /5-HT $_{1D\beta}$ Adenylyl Cyclase Assay

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Studies were performed essentially as described in *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.*, 1986, 238, 248. CHO clonal cell lines expressing the human cloned 5-HT $_{1D\alpha}$  and 5-HT $_{1D\beta}$  receptors were harvested in PBS and homogenised, using a motor driven teflon/glass homogeniser, in ice cold Tris HCl-EGTA buffer (composition in mM: Tris HCl 10, EGTA 1, pH 8.0 at room temperature) and incubated on ice for 30-60 min. The tissue was then centrifuged at 20,000g for 20 min at 4°C, the supernatant discarded and the pellet resuspended in Tris HCl-EDTA buffer (composition in mM: Tris HCl 50, EDTA 5, pH 7.6 at room temperature) just prior to assay. The adenylyl cyclase activity was determined by measuring the conversion of  $\alpha$ -[ $^{33}P$ ]-ATP to [ $^{33}P$ ]-cyclic AMP. A 10  $\mu$ l aliquot of the membrane suspension was incubated, for 10-15 min, in a final volume of 50  $\mu$ l, at 30°C, with or without forskolin (10  $\mu$ M), in the presence or absence of test compound. The incubation buffer consisted of 50 mM Tris HCl (pH 7.6 at room temperature), 100 mM NaCl, 30  $\mu$ M GTP,

50  $\mu$ M cyclic AMP, 1 mM dithiothreitol, 1 mM ATP, 5 mM  $MgCl_2$ , 1 mM EGTA, 1 mM 3-isobutyl-1-methylxanthine, 3.5 mM creatinine phosphate, 0.2 mg/ml creatine phosphokinase, 0.5-1  $\mu$ Ci  $\alpha$ -[ $^{33}P$ ]-ATP and 1 nCi [ $^3H$ ]-cyclic AMP. The incubation was initiated by the addition of membrane, following a 5 min preincubation at 30°C, and was terminated by the addition of 100  $\mu$ l SDS (composition in mM: sodium lauryl sulphate 2%, ATP 45, cyclic AMP 1.3, pH 7.5 at room temperature). The ATP and cyclic AMP were separated on a double column chromatography system (*Anal. Biochem.*, 1974, 58, 541). Functional parameters were determined using a least squares curve fitting programme ALLFIT (*Am. J. Physiol.*, 1978, 235, E97) from which  $E_{max}$  (maximal effect) and  $EC_{50}$  (the molar concentration of compound necessary to inhibit the maximal effect by 50%) values were obtained for each test compound. Of those compounds which were tested in this assay, the  $EC_{50}$  values for the 5-HT $_{1D\alpha}$  receptor obtained for the compounds of the accompanying Examples were below 500 nM in each case. Moreover, the compounds of the accompanying Examples which were tested were all found to possess at least a 10-fold selectivity for the 5-HT $_{1D\alpha}$  receptor subtype relative to the 5-HT $_{1D\beta}$  subtype.

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#### 5-HT $_{1D\alpha}$ /5-HT $_{1D\beta}$ GTP $\gamma$ S Binding

Studies were performed essentially as described in *Br. J. Pharmacol.*, 1993, 109, 1120. CHO clonal cell lines expressing the human cloned 5-HT $_{1D\alpha}$  and 5-HT $_{1D\beta}$  receptors were harvested in PBS and homogenised using a Kinematica polytron in ice cold 20 mM HEPES containing 10 mM EDTA, pH 7.4 at room temperature. The membranes were then centrifuged at 40,000g, 4°C for 15 min. The pellet was then resuspended in ice cold 20 mM HEPES containing 0.1 mM EDTA, pH 7.4 at room temperature and recentrifuged at 40,000g, 4°C for 15-25 minutes. The membranes were then resuspended in assay buffer (composition in

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mM: HEPES 20, NaCl 100, MgCl<sub>2</sub> 10, pargyline 0.01; ascorbate 0.1%; pH 7.4 at room temperature) at a concentration of 40 µg protein/ml for the 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor transfected cells and 40-50 µg protein/ml for the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  receptor transfected cells. The membrane suspension was then incubated, in a volume of 1 ml, with GDP (100 µM for 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor transfected cells, 30 µM for the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  receptor transfected cells) and test compound at 30°C for 20 min and then transferred to ice for a further 15 min. [<sup>35</sup>S]-GTP $\gamma$ S was then added at a final concentration of 100 pM and the samples incubated for 30 min at 30°C. The reaction was initiated by the addition of membrane and was terminated by rapid filtration through Whatman GF/B filters and washed with 5 ml water. The radioactive filters were then counted on a LKB beta counter. Functional parameters were determined by a non-linear, least squares regression analysis using an iterative curve fitting routine, from which E<sub>max</sub> (maximal effect) and EC<sub>50</sub> (the molar concentration of compound necessary to inhibit the maximal effect by 50%) values were obtained for each test compound. Of those compounds which were tested in this assay, the EC<sub>50</sub> values for the 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor obtained for the compounds of the accompanying Examples were below 500 nM in each case. Moreover, the compounds of the accompanying Examples which were tested were all found to possess at least a 10-fold selectivity for the 5-HT<sub>1D $\alpha$</sub>  receptor subtype relative to the 5-HT<sub>1D $\beta$</sub>  subtype.

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### EXAMPLE 1

cis-3-[3-(5-Benzyl-hexahydro-pyrrolo[3.4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)propyl]-5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1H-indole. 1.5 Hydrogen Oxalate. 0.5 Hydrate. 0.1 Etherate

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Intermediate 1: Benzyl-methoxymethyl-trimethylsilanylmethyl-amine

*N*-Benzyltrimethylsilylmethylamine (10g, 52mmol) was added dropwise over 30 minutes to a stirred mixture of aqueous formaldehyde (38%, 5.0ml, 69mmol) and methanol (2.5ml, 61mmol) at 0°C. Upon complete addition the reaction was allowed to warm slowly to room temperature, then stirred at this temperature for 16h. The mixture was diluted with ether and the two layers separated. The organic layer was dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated to give the *title amine* (11g, 90%) as a clear colourless oil.  $\delta$  (250MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) -0.01 (9H, s, SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 2.14 (2H, s), 3.19 (3H, s, OMe), 3.71 (2H, s), 3.95 (2H, s), 7.16-7.32 (5H, m, Ar-H). This material was used without further purification.

Intermediate 2: cis-2,5-Dibenzyl-tetrahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole-1,3-dione

Trifluoroacetic acid (1.0M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 3ml, 3.0mmol) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of benzylmethoxymethyl-trimethylsilanylmethyl-amine (9.0g, 37.9mmol) and *N*-benzylmaleimide (5.5g, 29.3mmol) in dry dichloromethane (60ml) at 0°C under nitrogen. Upon complete addition, the reaction was stirred at 0°C for 15 minutes, then at room temperature for 45 minutes. The mixture was transferred to a separating funnel and washed with saturated aqueous sodium hydrogen carbonate (x1) and water (x1). The organic layer was dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with 40% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether to give the *title pyrrolo-pyrrole* (9.2g, 98%) as a colourless solid.  $\delta$  (360MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) 2.30-2.36 (2H, m), 3.07 (2H, d, J=9.8Hz), 3.28-3.36 (2H, m), 3.54 (2H, s), 4.58 (2H, s), 7.16-7.36 (10H, m, Ar-H).

Intermediate 3: cis-2-Benzyl-tetrahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole-1,3-dione

A mixture of 2,5-dibenzyl-tetrahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole-1,3-dione (8.8g, 27.5mmol), ammonium formate (8.8g, 140mmol), 5N HCl (5.6ml,

28mmol) and 10% Pd/C (800mg) in methanol (240ml) was heated at reflux under nitrogen for 1 hour. Upon cooling, the catalyst was removed by filtration through celite, washing with methanol. The filtrate was evaporated and the residue was partitioned between dichloromethane and saturated aqueous sodium hydrogen carbonate. The aqueous was further extracted with dichloromethane (x2). The combined extracts were washed with brine (x1), dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub> (95:5:0.5→91:8:1) to give the *title amine* (6.4g, ~100%) as a clear colourless oil.  $\delta$  (360MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.95-3.04 (2H, m), 3.20-3.25 (2H, m), 3.49 (2H, d, J=11.5Hz), 4.64 (2H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 7.24-7.36 (5H, m, Ar-H).

Intermediate 4: cis-2-Benzyl-octahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole

Lithium aluminium hydride (1M in THF, 85ml, 85mmol) was added slowly to a stirred solution of 2-benzyl-tetrahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole-1,3-dione (6.4g, 27.8mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (60ml) at room temperature under nitrogen. Upon complete addition, the mixture was stirred and heated at 70°C for 16h. The mixture was then cooled to 0°C and carefully quenched with water (3.2ml), followed by 4N sodium hydroxide (3.2ml) and water (4.5ml). The mixture was filtered, washing with ethyl acetate. The filtrate was evaporated and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub> (40:8:1→30:8:1) to give the *title amine* (4.5g, 80%) as a clear oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  (360MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.24-2.28 (2H, m), 2.42 (1H, s), 2.56-2.64 (4H, m), 2.68 (1H, dd, J=11.5, 2.4Hz), 2.77-2.83 (2H, m), 3.44 (2H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 7.13-7.30 (5H, m, Ar-H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (90.5MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 43.6 (CH), 54.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 59.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 60.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 126.8 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 139.3 (C).

Intermediate 5: cis-2-Benzyl-5-(5,5-dimethoxy-pentyl)octahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole

- A mixture of 2-benzyl-octahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole (2.1g, 10.4mmol), 5-chloropentanal-dimethylacetal (1.75g, 10.5mmol), sodium iodide (1.71g, 11.4mmol) and sodium carbonate (1.21g, 11.4mmol) in dry 1,2-dimethoxyethane (30ml) was stirred and heated at reflux under nitrogen and protected from light for 16h. The volatiles were then removed *in vacuo* and the residue partitioned between ethyl acetate and saturated aqueous potassium carbonate. The aqueous was further extracted with ethyl acetate (x2). The combined extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated. The residue was then purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub> (95:5:0.5) to give the *title acetal* (2.8g, 81%) as a clear colourless oil.  $\delta$  (250MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.35-1.65 (6H, m), 2.35-2.95 (12H, m), 3.32 (6H, s, (OMe)<sub>2</sub>); 3.48 (2H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 7.23-7.33 (5H, m, Ar-H).
- cis*-3-[3-(5-Benzyl-hexahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)propyl]-5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indole. 1.5 Hydrogen oxalate. 0.5 Hydrate. 0.1 Etherate
- 4-(1,2,4-Triazol-4-yl)phenylhydrazine (EP581538) (1.48g, 8.4mmol) was added in one portion to a stirred solution of 2-benzyl-5-(5,5-dimethoxypentyl)octahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole (2.8g, 8.4mmol) in 4% sulphuric acid (50ml) at room temperature. After 30 minutes at room temperature the mixture was heated to reflux under nitrogen for 72h. The reaction was then cooled to 0°C and quenched with solid potassium carbonate. The aqueous was then extracted with *n*-butanol (x4). The combined extracts were evaporated and the residue purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub> (94:5:1→91:8:1→89:10:1) to give the *title indole* (1.3g, 35%) as a yellow foam. An analytically pure sample was obtained by further chromatography of a small portion of the above sample on silica gel, eluting with Et<sub>2</sub>O/EtOH/NH<sub>3</sub> (40:10:1) to give the *title indole* (150mg) as a colourless solid. The 1.5 hydrogen oxalate. 0.5 hydrate. 0.1 etherate was prepared (Et<sub>2</sub>O/MeOH): mp 149-153°C.

(Found: C, 61.12; H, 6.25; N, 14.07.  $C_{26}H_{30}N_6 \cdot 1.5(C_2H_2O_4) \cdot 0.5(H_2O) \cdot 0.1(C_4H_{10}O)$  requires C, 61.16; H, 6.24; N, 14.26%).  $\delta$  (360MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO) 1.98-2.08 (2H, m), 2.50-2.60 (1H, m), 2.70-2.82 (5H, m), 2.86-3.00 (5H, m), 3.06-3.14 (2H, m), 3.38-3.50 (1H, br m), 3.76 (2H, br s,  $CH_2Ph$ ), 7.26-7.38 (7H, m, Ar-H), 7.51 (1H, d,  $J=8.6Hz$ , Ar-H), 7.82 (1H, d,  $J=2.0Hz$ , Ar-H), 9.02 (2H, s, Triazole-H), 11.19 (1H, br s, N-H).

### EXAMPLE 2

10 *cis-N-(4-(2-(5-(3-(5-(1,2,4-Triazol-4-yl)-1H-indol-3-yl)propyl)-hexahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)ethyl)phenyl)acetamide. 2 Hydrogen oxalate. 0.75 Hydrate*

15 Intermediate 1: *cis-3-(3-(Hexahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)propyl)-5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1H-indole*

A mixture of 3-(3-(5-benzyl-hexahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)-propyl)-5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1H-indole (1.3g, 3.0mmol), ammonium formate (950mg, 15.1mmol), 5N HCl (600 $\mu$ l, 3.0mmol) and 10% Pd/C (200mg) in methanol (30ml) was stirred and heated at reflux for 90 minutes. Upon cooling, the reaction mixture was filtered through celite, washing with methanol. The filtrate was evaporated and the residue partitioned between saturated aqueous potassium carbonate and *n*-butanol. The aqueous was further extracted with *n*-butanol (x3). The combined extracts were evaporated and the residue was purified by chromatography on neutral alumina (grade III), eluting with 5% MeOH/ $CH_2Cl_2$ , then  $CH_2Cl_2/MeOH/NH_3$  (95:5:0.5), to give the *title amine* (905mg, 90%) as a foam.  $\delta$  (360MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ) 1.78-1.86 (4H, m), 2.21-2.23 (2H, m), 2.34-2.39 (2H, m), 2.56-2.88 (9H, m), 7.05-7.08 (2H, m, Ar-H), 7.40 (1H, d,  $J=8.6Hz$ , Ar-H), 7.49 (1H, d,  $J=2.0Hz$ , Ar-H), 8.40 (2H, s, Triazole-H), 8.58 (1H, br s, N-H).



cis-N-(4-(2-(5-(3-(5-(1,2,4-Triazol-4-yl)-1H-indol-3-yl)propyl)hexahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)ethyl)phenyl)acetamide. 2 Hydrogen oxalate. 0.75 Hydrate

Sodium iodide (98mg, 0.65mmol) was added to a mixture of 3-(3-  
5 (hexahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)propyl)-5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1H-indole (200mg, 0.59mmol), sodium carbonate (95mg, 0.90mmol) and N-(4-(2-bromoethyl)phenyl)acetamide (158mg, 0.65mmol) in dry 1,2-dimethoxyethane (5ml) at room temperature under nitrogen. The mixture was then stirred and heated to reflux, protected from light, for  
10 16h. Upon cooling, the volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was partitioned between dichloromethane and water. The aqueous was further extracted with dichloromethane (x2). The combined extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with  
15 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub> (60:8:1→50:8:1) to give the *title indole* (88mg, 30%) as a foam. The *bis* hydrogen oxalate. 0.75 hydrate was prepared (Et<sub>2</sub>O/MeOH): mp 151-155°C. (Found: C, 57.43; H, 6.26; N, 14.35. C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O·2(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>)·0.75(H<sub>2</sub>O) requires C, 57.34; H, 5.91; N, 14.18%).  
δ (360MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) 1.94-2.02 (5H, m, includes NC(O)CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.7-3.3  
20 (18H, m), 7.16 (2H, d, J=8.5Hz, Ar-H), 7.30-7.36 (2H, m, Ar-H), 7.48-7.52 (3H, m, Ar-H), 7.81 (1H, s, Ar-H), 9.03 (2H, s, Triazole-H), 9.89 (1H, s, N-H), 11.17 (1H, s, N-H).

25

### EXAMPLE 3

cis-Phenyl-(5-(3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1H-indol-3-yl)propyl)-hexahydropyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)methanone. 2 Hydrogen oxalate. 0.5 Hydrate. 0.15 Etherate

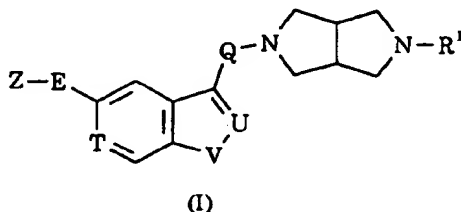
30

Benzoyl chloride (57μl, 0.49mmol) was added to a stirred solution of 3-(3-(hexahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrol-2-yl)propyl)-5-(1,2,4-

triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indole (150mg, 0.45mmol) and triethylamine (125 $\mu$ l, 0.90mmol) in dry dichloromethane (5ml) at 0°C under nitrogen. The reaction was allowed to warm slowly to room temperature and then stirred at this temperature for 72h. The reaction was diluted with  
5 dichloromethane, then washed with saturated aqueous sodium hydrogen carbonate (x1). The organic layer was dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub> (80:8:1→60:8:1) to give the *title indole* (138mg, 70%) as a foam. The *bis* hydrogen oxalate. 0.5 hydrate. 0.15  
10 etherate was prepared (Et<sub>2</sub>O/MeOH): (Found: C, 57.64; H, 5.39; N, 12.75. C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O·2(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>)·0.5(H<sub>2</sub>O)-0.15(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O) requires C, 57.36; H, 5.43; N, 13.12%).  $\delta$  (360MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) 1.96-2.08 (2H, m); 2.76-2.82 (2H, m), 3.00-3.20 (5H, m), 3.4-3.7 (5H, br m); 7.30-7.33 (2H, m, Ar-H), 7.42-7.52 (6H, m, Ar-H), 7.80 (1H, d, J=1.9Hz, Ar-H), 9.00 (2H, s, Triazole-H), 11.18  
15 (1H, br s, N-H).

**CLAIMS:**

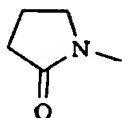
1. A compound of formula I, or a salt or prodrug thereof:



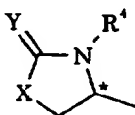
5

wherein

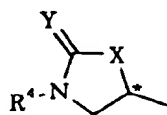
- Z represents hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, -OR<sup>5</sup>,  
 -OCOR<sup>5</sup>, -OCONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -OCH<sub>2</sub>CN, -OCH<sub>2</sub>CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -SR<sup>5</sup>, -SOR<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>,  
 10 -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>COR<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>6</sup>, -NR<sup>5</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>6</sup>, -COR<sup>5</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>,  
 -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, or a group of formula (a), (b), (c) or (d):



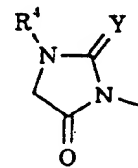
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

- 15 in which the asterisk \* denotes a chiral centre; or

Z represents an optionally substituted five-membered  
 heteroaromatic ring selected from furan, thiophene, pyrrole, oxazole,  
 thiazole, isoxazole, isothiazole, imidazole, pyrazole, oxadiazole,  
 thiadiazole, triazole and tetrazole;

- 20 X represents oxygen, sulphur, -NH- or methylene;

Y represents oxygen or sulphur;

E represents a chemical bond or a straight or branched alkylene  
 chain containing from 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

Q represents a straight or branched alkylene chain containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, optionally substituted in any position by a hydroxy group;

T represents nitrogen or CH;

5 U represents nitrogen or C-R<sup>2</sup>;

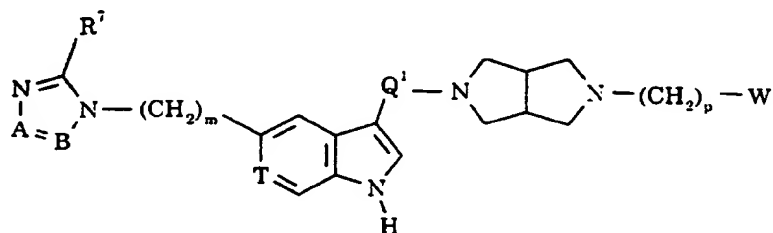
V represents oxygen, sulphur or N-R<sup>3</sup>;

R<sup>1</sup> represents C<sub>3-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3-6</sub> alkynyl, arylcarbonyl, aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl or heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, any of which groups may be optionally substituted;

10 R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> independently represent hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl; and

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> independently represent hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, methylphenyl, or an optionally substituted aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl or heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl group.

15 2. A compound as claimed in claim 1 represented by formula IIA, and salts and prodrugs thereof:



(IIA)

20 wherein

m is zero, 1, 2 or 3;

p is 1, 2 or 3;

25 Q<sup>1</sup> represents a straight or branched alkylene chain containing from 2 to 5 carbon atoms, optionally substituted in any position by a hydroxy group;

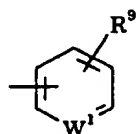
T represents nitrogen or CH;

A represents nitrogen or CH;

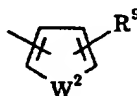
B represents nitrogen or C-R<sup>8</sup>;

- 5 R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> independently represent hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, aryl, aryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub> heterocycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, halogen, cyano or trifluoromethyl; and

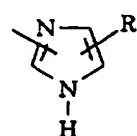
W represents a group of formula (Wa), (Wb) or (Wc):



(Wa)



(Wb)



(Wc)

10

in which

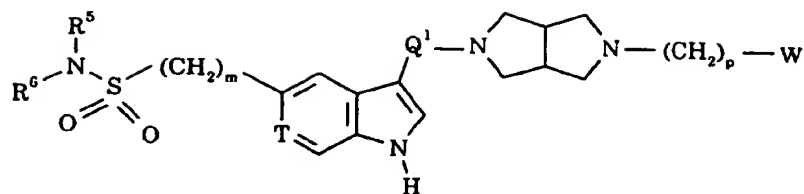
W<sup>1</sup> represents CH or nitrogen;

W<sup>2</sup> represents oxygen, sulphur, NH or N-methyl; and

- 15 R<sup>9</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-tetrazolyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>)alkylaminomethyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkylcarbonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulphonylamino, aminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaminocarbonyl, aminosulphonyl or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylaminosulphonylmethyl.

20

3. A compound as claimed in claim 1 represented by formula IIB, and salts and prodrugs thereof:



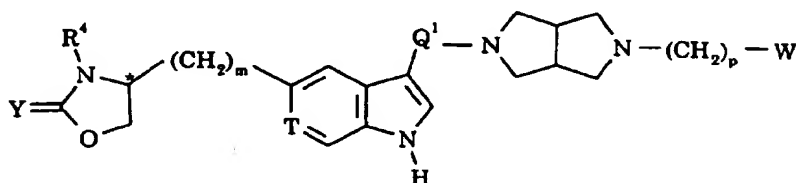
(IIB)

wherein

$m$ ,  $p$ ,  $Q^1$ ,  $T$  and  $W$  are as defined in claim 2; and

5  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are as defined in claim 1.

4. A compound as claimed in claim 1 represented by formula IIC, and salts and prodrugs thereof:



(IIC)

wherein the asterisk \* denotes a chiral centre;

$m$ ,  $p$ ,  $Q^1$ ,  $T$  and  $W$  are as defined in claim 2; and

$R^4$  and  $Y$  are as defined in claim 1.

15

5. A compound selected from:

3-benzyl-7-[3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propyl]-*cis*-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane;

3-(pyridin-3-yl)methyl-7-[3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propyl]-*cis*-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane;

20

3-[2-(4-(acetylamino)phenyl)ethyl]-7-[3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propyl]-*cis*-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane;

3-benzoyl-7-[3-(5-(1,2,4-triazol-4-yl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propyl]-*cis*-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane;  
and salts and prodrugs thereof.

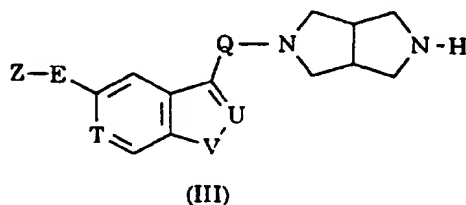
5           6.     A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10           7.     A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 for use in therapy.

15           8.     The use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prevention of clinical conditions for which an agonist of 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptors selective for the 5-HT<sub>1Dα</sub> subtype thereof is indicated.

            9.     A process for the preparation of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, which comprises:

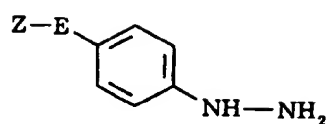
20           (A)    attachment of the R<sup>1</sup> moiety to a compound of formula III:



wherein Z, E, Q, T, U and V are as defined in claim 1; or

25

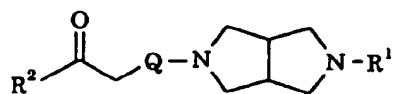
(B)    reacting a compound of formula IV:



(IV)

wherein Z and E are as defined in claim 1; with a compound of formula IX,  
or a carbonyl-protected form thereof:

5

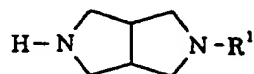


(IX)

wherein Q, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are as defined in claim 1; followed, where required,  
by N-alkylation by standard methods to introduce the moiety R<sup>3</sup>; or

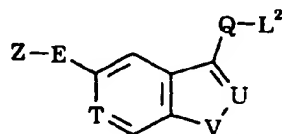
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(C) reacting a compound of formula XI:



(XI)

15 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is as defined in claim 1; with a compound of formula XII:



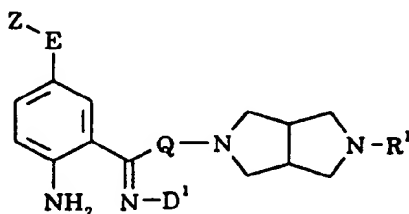
(XII)



wherein Z, E, Q, T, U and V are as defined in claim 1, and L<sup>2</sup> represents a suitable leaving group; or

(D) cyclising a compound of formula XIV:

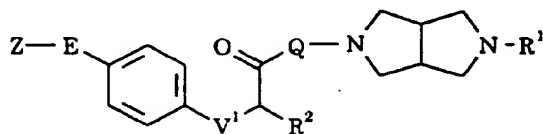
5



(XIV)

in which Z, E, Q and R<sup>1</sup> are as defined in claim 1, and D<sup>1</sup> represents a readily displaceable group; followed, where required, by N-alkylation by  
10 standard methods to introduce the moiety R<sup>3</sup>; or

(E) cyclising a compound of formula XVIII:



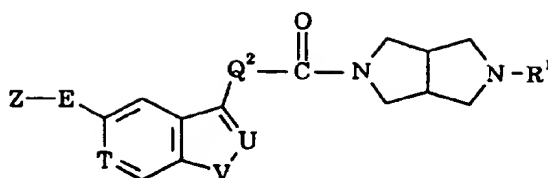
(XVIII)

15

wherein Z, E, Q, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are as defined in claim 1, and V<sup>1</sup> represents oxygen or sulphur; or

(F) reducing a compound of formula XXII:

20



(XXII)

wherein Z, E, T, U, V and R<sup>1</sup> are as defined in claim 1, and -Q<sup>2</sup>-CH<sub>2</sub>- corresponds to the moiety Q as defined in claim 1; and

5

(G) subsequently, where required, converting a compound of formula I initially obtained into a further compound of formula I by conventional methods.

10

10. A method for the treatment and/or prevention of clinical conditions for which an agonist of 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptors selective for the 5-HT<sub>1Dα</sub> subtype is indicated, which method comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5.

15

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 96/02310

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 6 C07D487/04 A61K31/40

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 6 C07D A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP,A,0 548 813 (SQUIBB BRISTOL MYERS CO) 30 June 1993 see the whole document ---	1-10
A	J. MED. CHEM., vol. 38, 12 May 1995, pages 1799-1810, XP002021027 STREET ET AL.: "Synthesis and Serotonergic Activity ..." see the whole document --- -/--	1-10

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

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- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 December 1996

Date of mailing of the international search report

28.01.97

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Fax (+ 31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Steendijk, M

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern: al Application No  
PCT/GB 96/02310

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	J. MED. CHEM. (JMCAR,00222623);89; VOL.32 (5); PP.1024-33, WYETH-AYERST RES. INC.;MED. CHEM. EXP. THER. DIV.; PRINCETON; 08543-8000; NJ; USA (US), XP002021028 ABOU-GHARBIA M ET AL: "Synthesis and structure-activity relationship of substituted tetrahydro- and hexahydro-1,2-benzisothiazol-3-one 1,1-dioxides and thiadiazinones: potential anxiolytic agents" see page 1030, compound 56 ---	1-10
A	NEUROPHARMACOLOGY (NEPHBW,00283908);95; VOL.34 (2); PP.235-7, LAB. CELL. MOL. NEUROBIOL.;CENT. RECHERCHE PIERRE FABRE; CASTRES; 81106; FR. (FR), XP002021029 PAUWELS P J ET AL: "The 5-HT1D receptor antagonist GR 127,935 is an agonist at cloned human 5-HT1D.alpha. receptor sites" see abstract ---	1-10
P,X	WO,A,95 32196 (MERCK SHARP & DOHME ;CASTRO PINEIRO JOSE LUIS (GB); CHAMBERS MARK) 30 November 1995 see the whole document ---	1-10
A	PROC. NATL. ACAD. SCI. USA, vol. 91, 1994, pages 3666-3669, XP002021030 REBECK ET AL.: "Selective 5HT1dalpha serotonin receptor ..." cited in the application see the whole document -----	1-10

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

Intern. Application No

PCT/GB 96/02310

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP-A-0548813	30-06-93	AU-B- 661527	27-07-95
		AU-A- 3003492	24-03-94
		CA-A- 2084531	20-06-93
		CZ-A- 9203592	19-01-94
		JP-A- 5262762	12-10-93
		NZ-A- 245439	26-07-95
		US-A- 5434154	18-07-95
		ZA-A- 9209445	12-07-93
		CN-A- 1085556	20-04-94
WO-A-9532196	30-11-95	AU-A- 2529695	18-12-95